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COUNTRY Korea

SUBJECT Communist Troop Movements and Equipment

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1. On 20 August each Chinese Communist Division in North Korea was equipped with nine tanks.
2. In early July there was a North Korean replacement depot at Songch'on (126-13, 39-15) (BU 6048) for the purpose of processing South Korean prisoners of war for rear duty and transportation duty.
3. On 2 September about 600 Soviet trucks arrived at Musan (129-13, 42-14) (EB 1875). The drivers were North Koreans from a class of 4,000 trained at Usungkai (sic), Manchuria. The trucks moved south on the coast road below Ch'ongjin (129-49, 41-47) (EB 6826) on 3 September. There was no traffic between the USSR and North Korea at Aoji-dong (130-24, 42-31) (FC 1508) from 3 July to 2 September.
4. Three divisions of Chinese Communist troops from the 3 Field Army were moving southwest from P'ungsan (128-09, 40-49) (DA 2818) on 4 September. These troops are believed to be remnants of the 25 (sic)¹ and 27 Army of the 3 Field Army, evacuated from the east central front in June and regrouped in the P'ungsan area. The field grade officers of these units had no knowledge of their final destination. The morale of the troops was low because they feared UN air raids and artillery and because many comrades had been killed in the spring offensive. Before leaving P'ungsan only officers were given shots against smallpox and typhoid.

1. Comment. The 25 Army has not previously been reported in Korea.

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